Seven Ways to Prepare for Easter



Easter weekend is the SUPER BOWL for saints. The FINAL FOUR for followers of Christ and the WORLD SERIES for those who are serious about what JESUS did for us over 2,000 years ago. We're celebrating the single greatest event in all of human history: The RESURRECTION of JESUS from the grave.

So what's the best way to get ready for it?

- (1) PRAY. Perhaps the most underrated aspect of the Christian life is prayer. None of us pray as much as we could or should. Certainly the celebration of Easter, centered on the death, burial and resurrection, should call for extended times of prayer, thanking God for the blessings He has given us.
- (2) PROMOTE. Peter and John were ordered not to speak or teach at all in the name of JESUS. Their response? "We cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20). Surely those of us who have experienced the joy of salvation should share it with those who have not. In our current culture of bad news, 24-hours a day, the time has never been better for the GOOD NEWS. We should use whatever avenues of communication we can to spread the Word to everyone we know.
- **(3) PLAN.** A preacher I know says, "What happens on Sunday is always a Saturday night decision." In other words, we plan ahead for the things that are important to us and worship ought to be number one. So make plans right now to be part of your church's EASTER celebration. Get it on your calendar. Tell your family and friends, "This is what we are going to do and when we are going to do it."
- (4) PREPARE. A vital part of planning is preparing. It's not enough to have a plan if you don't make the preparations to execute it. I have a long-time habit of creating my "To-Do" list for the next day before I leave my office to go home for the evening. On Saturday evening, I put out the shirt I plan to wear to church the next day. The short answer on the shirt? If I want my wife to iron it, it needs to be out the night before. Make all the preparations you need to make so this year's Easter celebration can be your best ever.
- **(5) PROVIDE.** A lot of people will head to Easter celebrations excited about what they are going to get out

of it and that's to be expected. However, as Christ-followers, shouldn't we also be prepared to give of ourselves to the One Who has given us everything? Easter weekend is the perfect opportunity to give a special gift. Lots of people spend money on new clothes for their kids, even themselves. Many will buy Easter gifts and do special things for friends and family. Let's make sure we give our best to the Lord and His Church, especially this EASTER weekend.

- **(6) PARTICIPATE.** Unless you are physically sick or unable to come, don't let anything or anyone keep you from worshiping the RISEN LORD on EASTER WEEKEND.
- (7) PRAISE. The Resurrection is the centerpiece of Christianity. It's mentioned 104 times in the New Testament and was the central theme to all of the apostolic preaching in Acts. Eleven of the 12 Apostles eventually died martyr's deaths on the basis of two things: the Resurrection of JESUS Christ and their belief in Him as the Son of God. The Resurrection is what sets Christianity apart from every other religion. One commentator said, "Just as the heart pumps life-giving blood to every part of the body, so the truth of the resurrection gives life to every other area of gospel truth."

According to Peter, because of the Resurrection of JESUS Christ, we have been born again with a living hope and an inheritance kept in heaven for us (1 Peter 1:3-4). The Apostle Paul said, "If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain." But the angel declared, "He is not here! He is risen, just as He said!" The tomb is empty and we have a reason to praise God and celebrate what JESUS has done like never before.

So get ready. Let's celebrate!

Blessings,

Pastor David

36th Annual Sermons Ala Carte A Lenten Sermon Series Presented by the Cherokee County Ministerial Association Worship & Lunch Wednesdays at Noon During Lent ATTRIBUTES OF GOD Service: 12:05pm - 12:30pm Lunch: 12:30pm - Cost \$5.00 Memorial Presbyterian Church 127 E Willow St

DEVOTION



Our Faith Is Not Futile

Read 1 Corinthians 15:17-20 (ESV)

And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Reflect

If Jesus was never resurrected, what would be the point of Christianity?

Throughout the course of history, there have been many who have called the resurrection of Jesus into question and tried to disprove it. From day one, we see the chief priests and elders paying off the guards to spread the rumor that the disciples came and stole Jesus' body (Matthew 28:11-15).

But if the disciples stole the body, what did they do with it? Jesus' body has never been recovered. How did they get past the armed Roman soldiers that were guarding the tomb? How did they remove that heavy stone? Most convincingly, why were they willing to stick to this story even in the face of severe persecution? Remember, all of the disciples were persecuted for maintaining that Jesus rose from the grave. In fact, only John escaped martyrdom and died of natural consequences but even he had been severely persecuted and exiled to the island of Patmos. Does it make sense that all of these men would faithfully maintain a lie for all of those years only to die for it? They

didn't have anything to gain for lying. Instead, they lost everything for speaking the truth!

But there were even more eyewitnesses of the risen Christ than just the 12 disciples. Paul explained, "For I delivered to you as of first importance what I received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me" (1 Corinthians 15:3-8). He appeared to more than 500 people. And what's more, after He appeared to these eyewitnesses, their lives were transformed! For example, Paul encountered Jesus and he was never the same!

In the above passage, Paul says that if Jesus has not been raised, we are still dead in our sins. Without the resurrection, we have no hope for life after death. In that case, our faith would be pointless. We would be people deserving of pity for foolishly believing something false and for dedicating our lives and even suffering for a lie!

And yet, it isn't a lie! We have every reason to believe that Jesus was bodily raised from the dead on the third day. Paul says that because Christ has been raised from the dead, we can have full assurance that we will be resurrected as well! In 1 Corinthians 15:22 he says, "For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive."

Friends, our faith is not futile! We are not the ones to be pitied! Rather, our hearts should break for those who are perishing in unbelief. We should dedicate our lives to sharing the Gospel with others so that they too may believe and be saved. In Christ, our debt is paid, our sins are forgiven, we are made right with the Father, we have the assurance of everlasting life, and we are transformed! We should share this Good News with others every chance we get!

Pray

Jesus, thank You for the incredible hope that we have in You. Your resurrection proves that You are one with the Father, just as You said. You have the power to forgive my sins and You will raise me up with You to live forever. Give me opportunities to share Your Good News with those who are lost and perishing in unbelief. Amen.













Zach Stafford | Los Angeles Missionary

Zachary grew up in Houston, Texas, and is a second-generation Jewish believer. He became a believer when he was a teenager at summer camp, and camp programs have always been close to his heart because of this. He graduated from the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago with a bachelor's degree in Jewish studies. Zach is passionate about young adult evangelism, discipleship, and teaching, and has bee on staff with Jews for Jesus in Los Angeles since June 2019.

Zach will presenting Christ in the Passover - An Exploration of Passover, The Last Supper, and Your Communion Experience on Tuesday evening April 12, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. here at First Church of Christ. All are welcome to attend.

Board of Elders and Deacons MONTHLY MEETING April 10, 2022



Following Bible Classes



Easter Lilies In Memory of

Wayne Buck by Rita Pearson Wayne Buck by Hulda Schmitt

Steve Buck by Rita Pearson Steve Buck by Hulda Schmitt

George, Fern & Connie Cockburn by Curt & Rhonda Wiese

Kermit, Kathryn, & Rodney Hazen by Joyce Hazen

> Paul & Maxine Jenness by Paula Burch

Dean Nelson by Darlene Nelson

Cheri Salter by Danny Salter

Family Who Have Gone Before Us David & Angela Hall



APRIL CELEBRATIONS

April 1 Amanda Curtin

April 4
Dennis & Bonnie Ducommun

April 6Connie Johnson

April 7Mike Duvall

April 10Bryson Newcomb

April 14 Sholeen Sparks

April 16 Keira Feller

April 17 EASTER

April 19Bonnie Ducommun

April 21
Laurie Wheeler
Montana D. (MCS Student)

April 25

Joanne Nelson Jeff & Amanda Curtin

> **April 28** Anita Howard

ATTENDANCE

February 27		March 6		March 13		March 20	
On Campus	78	On Campus	51	On Campus	71	On Campus	84
Online	18	Online	26	Online	24	Online	18
TOTAL	96	TOTAL	77	TOTAL	95	TOTAL	102

OFFERING

February 27		March 6		March 13		March 20	
On Campus	1460.00	On Campus	2039.00	On Campus	1939.00	On Campus	3816.00
Online	206.87	Online	445.65	Online	156.87	Online	-
Designated	20.00	Designated		Designated	20.00	Designated	60.00
TOTAL	\$ 1,686.87	TOTAL	\$2,484.65	TOTAL	\$2,115.87	TOTAL	\$3,876.00

WORSHIP TEAM SCHEDULE

3-Apr 10-Apr		17-Apr	24-Apr	
Children's Church	Children's Church	Children's Church	Children's Church	
Sholeen Sparks	Polly Fishman	Dixie Draper	Angela Hall	
Children's Sunday School	Children's Sunday School	Children's Sunday School	Children's Sunday School	
Sholeen Sparks	Polly Fishman	Dixie Draper	Angela Hall	
Communion Message	Communion Message	Communion Message	Communion Message	
Dennis Smith	Guy Fishman	Kirk Nelson	Mike Sparks	
Worship Leader	Worship Leader	Worship Leader	Worship Leader	
Wren Smith	David Hall	Wren Smith	Sharon Henkel	
Keyboard	Keyboard	Keyboard	Keyboard	
Wren Smith			Eleanor Johnston	
Piano	Piano	Piano	Piano	
Eleanor Johnston			Wren Smith	
Singers	Singers	Singers	Singers	
Angela Hall	Sharon Henkel	Sharon Henkel	Angela Hall	
Dennis Smith	Angel Jansen	Larry Heschke	Angel Jansen	
Larry Heschke		Dennis Smith	Dennis Smith	
PowerPoint	PowerPoint	PowerPoint	PowerPoint	
Braella Inman	Nancy Nelson	Braella Inman	Nancy Nelson	
Sound	Sound	Sound	Sound	
Mike Sparks	Larry Heschke	Mike Sparks	Mike Sparks	
Janitors	Janitors	Janitors	Janitors	
Rita Pearson	Rita Pearson	Rita Pearson	Rita Pearson	
Kevin Schmillen	Kevin Schmillen	Kevin Schmillen	Kevin Schmillen	

Many Ways to Give at First Church of Christ



In PersonWe love to see you!



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Online www.cherokeefcc.com

BOARD OF ELDERS & DEACONS UPDATE

Board Meeting Notes March 13, 2022

Mission Reports

- The Mission Team is hosting a Tortured for Christ book study based on life story of Richard and Sabina Wurmbrand, founders of the Voice of the Martyrs. The study begins this afternoon at 4 p.m. in the chapel.
- Clean up dates for Camp Nebowa are April 23 and 30. Nancy will put that announcement in the newsletter and Kirk is going to suggest it as a service project to the Midwest Christian Services director.

Fellowship

- Easter Week
- There will be a presentation on April 12 from the Jews for Jesus mission where they will do a presentation about the Passover meal. Nancy asked if she should put that event out to the community and the answer was yes. Larry Heschke agreed to host the presenter at his and Jean's home rather than put them up in a hotel.
- David is planning a brief Good Friday service.
- There will be Easter Sunday breakfast hosted by the Board of Elders and Deacons. Mike is going to ask Wren Smith to order the eggs and sausage. Mark Patten is bringing an outdoor stove that will heat up the water for boiling the eggs faster than the kitchen stove. Larry Heschke is going to bring the ham. The breakfast will be from 8:00 to about 8:45 a.m. so people can go directly to worship after eating.

Worship

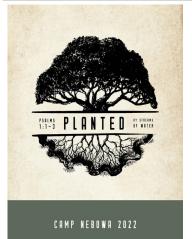
David was asked again about the wireless head worn microphone system and an updated pulpit. David said he
would table that until finances improved.

Buildings and Grounds

- Larry Heschke is going to check in with Valley Glass to see if the door for the lower southwest door has been
 ordered.
- Another round table got broken The NA group will try to fix it.
- Mike's Lawn Service wants to know if we want to do the same lawn applications as last year. The board said yes.
- There is excess furniture in the chapel that the board decided to give away for anyone who would want it. Larry
 Heschke claimed one of the office chairs. There is a small desk and another office chair. There will likely be more
 items to add to the group as spring cleaning comes about.

New Business

• Larry Heschke brought a request to the board about the use of the 15-passenger van. The Quilt Batts would like to use the van for a quilt trip to Yankton, SD sometime in April. There are three church members who participate in Quilt Batts. David said it needs a battery as he said he tried to start it up to drive it just to drive it around. Mark Patten and Larry Heschke said they would take care of it. Permission was given for its use.

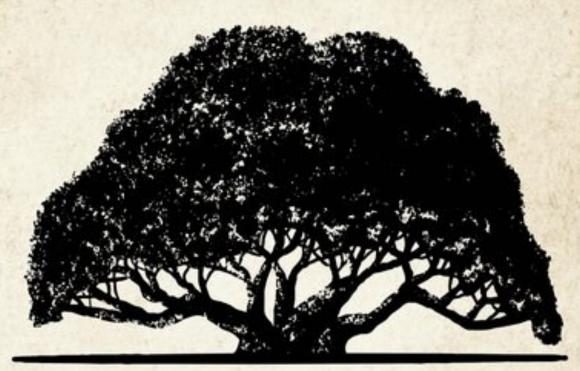


Camperships Available

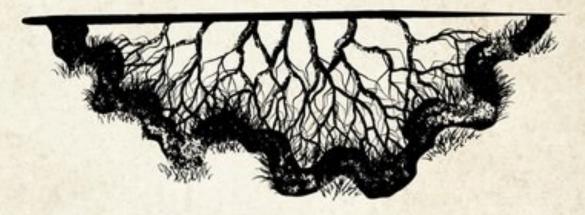
For those interested in attending any of the Camp Nebowa camps this summer there is financial assistance available. If you are a member of this church or attended Bible Buddies this last year the church will pay half of your camp fees. If further financial assistance is needed that can also be arranged.

To get a campership please register for Camp Nebowa through our church office. Contact Nancy Monday—Friday between 9 a.m.—2 p.m.

The office number is 712-225-2667. Registration forms can also be downloaded and printed from our website www.cherokeefcc.com



PSRLMS PLANTED BY STREAMS 1:1-3 PLANTED OF WATER



CAMP NEBOWA 2022

FOR ELEMENTARY

FIRST CHANCE

GRADES 1-2 | JUNE 10-11 | \$70/80* Dean: Josie Jones

First Chance camp is designed for families to enjoy together! So kids, bring your mom, dad or grandparent to camp with you and get your camp experience started on the right foot. THIS CAMP STARTS AT 4PM FRIDAY AND ENDS AT 4PM ON SATURDAY.

DISCOVERY 182

GRADES 3-4 | JUNE 26-28 OR
JULY 7-9 | \$80/90
DEAN: AMANDA KNAUSS

Here is an outstanding opportunity for a young camper to spend their first nights at camp on their own. Discovery Camp is one of our fastest growing camps, so we are excited to offer two different dates for families to have the option of which to attend. WK1: STARTS AT 4PM ON SUNDAY AND ENDS AT 4PM TUESDAY. WK2: STARTS AT 4PM THURSDAY AND ENDS AT 4PM SATURDAY.

JUNIOR CAMP 1&2

GRADES 5-6 | JUNE 5-9 OR JULY 10-14 | \$120/140

WK1 DEANS: JEFF & TURNER HICKS

WH2 DEANS: NATE POWELL & CLAYTON LUNDSTEDT

Great teaching, great fun, and a chance to meet some great friends. Sign up for an awesome time at Junior Camp! THESE CAMPS START AT 4PM ON SUNDAY AND END AT 1PM ON THURSDAY.



FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

JR. HIGH CAMP

GRADES 7-9 | \$130/150

Jr. High students love to spend a week away from home, so we are glad to offer plenty of opportunities for them to do just that here at Nebowa. We offer two different weeks of Jr. High camp for students to choose from (or why not go to both!). We can't wait to have you with us!

WEEK 1 | JUNE 12-17
DEANS: AUSTIN ETTLEMAN & JED SHERMER

WEEK 2 | JULY 17-22
DEANS: DANIEL ROBBINS & TIMMY JONES

THESE CAMPS START AT 4PM ON SUNDAY AND END AT 1PM ON FRIDAY.

SPORTS CAMP

GRADES 6-12 | JULY 24-28 \$130/150

DEANS: TIMMY JONES & HEATH HANSEN

Come to a week full of great sports instruction and competition, including: basketball, football, baseball/softball, volleyball and soccer! Sports Camp is focused on helping you make a difference as a Christian leader in your church and school! Don't miss it! THIS CAMP STARTS AT 4PM ON SUNDAY AND ENDS AT 1PM ON THURSDAY.



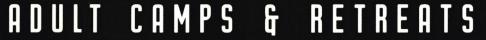
FOR HIGH SCHOOL

HIGH SCHOOL

GRADES 9-12 | JUNE 19-24 | \$130/150 DEANS: MATT ZINGRAF & ROB PRUCHA

It would seem that our world today is making it harder than ever for teenagers to just be themselves. Sometimes it's best when they can just have a break from things and come and relax - be themselves with other students and adults who care about them, and learn how much Jesus loves them and wants to use them to do great things. High School camp is an awesome week of camp where we give students the tools they need to become great followers of Jesus and leaders of their own families and communities. THIS CAMP STARTS AT 4PM ON SUNDAY AND ENDS AT 1PM ON FRIDAY.





AUGUST 4-7 | WOMEN'S RETREAT | \$80/90

A weekend to listen, learn, relax, and recharge. Dean: Nigee Huff

YOUNG ADULT CAMP | \$50/60 JULY 15-17 |

Enjoy a great weekend of community. Deans: Mike Cooper & Gillian Hicks

JULY 29-30 | FAMILY CAMP |

We are excited for our second year of family camp! Come join us!

Deans: Mike Cooper & Daniel Robbins

SEPTEMBER 9-11 | CRAFTY CAMP | \$70/80

A weekend of fun and fellowship at the lake in the fall. Dean: Helen Steele

SEPTEMBER 15-17

Boots, beards, and Bibles. Dean: Jeff Hicks

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE! We are glad to be able to offer scholarships for campers in need of assistance. Please contact us to find out more information.

Please note: The pre-registration deadline is May 31st.

All registrations made after that date must pay a higher fee. Canteen is included in registration fee.

*First Chance Camp does not require a paid registration for each parent. All costs are included in the campers registration.

**A free-will offering will be taken during Man Camp to help offset costs for the weekend.





REGISTER ONLINE!

Online registration is the quickest and easiest way to get your campers signed up. Just use your phone's camera to capture this code and get registered in just a few minutes!

CAMP RULES

Each person is expected to act like a Christian at all times.

Campers must follow the camp schedule unless excused by the Dean.

No one is to leave the campgrounds without the permission of the Dean.

The use of alcohol, tobacco, unprescribed drugs, and profanity are not permitted at any time.

No driving of cars or motorcycles without the consent of the Dean.

Sickness and injury must be reported to the Camp Health Officer. All medications are to be given to and distributed by the Camp Health Officer.

No cell phones, iPods/mp3 players, video game systems, knives, guns, or pets are allowed at camp.

Food and drink are not permitted in the dormitories.

Proper restraint should be exercised in the display of affection toward the opposite sex.

The camp reserves the right to send any student home who is in violation of these rules with no refund.

For more information about the camp rules such as dress code, please visit nebowa.com/faq-rules

COVID-19 POLICY

We deeply care about the safety of all of our campers and are working hard to ensure that any needs pertaining to the ongoing pandemic are addressed. For questions about our COVID-19 policy or for any other concerns please visit out website at:

WWW.NEBOWA.COM DIRECITONS

We are on the east shore of Blue Lake, which is just off Interstate 29: half-hour south of Sioux City, IA and an hour north of Omaha, NE. If you're using GPS, the address is 21596 Dogwood Ave, Onawa, IA, 51040.

Driving directions are as follows: Take Exit 112 off I-29, onto Hwy 175, and go west 1/2 mile to Dogwood Avenue. Turn right (north) and go 1-1/4 miles. You'll see our sign. We are on the left (west) side of the road, just past the KOA campground.



2022 MISSIONS

Rob and Lauren Prucha are excited to see you this summer as the camp missionaries! They are currently serving in the mission field of the college campus. Lauren is from Andover, MN and Rob is from Missouri Valley, IA. He grew up attending Nebowa and has served as camp staff for many years. Together they have been serving with CSF (Christian Student Fellowship) for four years and are currently established at Wayne State College in northeast Nebraska.

They are excited to share about all the exciting things Jesus is doing at Wayne State College. As well as discover how Jesus is using you where ever you are at! Rob and Lauren spend most of their time meeting one on one with students, walking with them in faith, life and everything in between. If you would like to learn more about all the exciting things the Prucha's are up to you can email them for more info now (prucha@csfneb.org) or expect to see them (and their new baby) soon for an amazing summer at camp!

FOLLOW US!





@ NEBOWA



@CAMPNEBOWA

April Bible Reading Plan

Praying the Promises

1.	2 Samuel 7:18-27	12.	Isaiah 43:1-12	23.	Ephesians 3:16-19
2.	Hebrews 13:5-8	13.	James 1:5-8	24.	2 Chronicles 16:7-9
3.	Romans 8:35-39	14.	1 John 1:5-10	25.	John 15:12-17
4.	Isaiah 26:1-10	15.	John 8:31-46	26.	2 Thessalonians 3:16-19
5.	Joshua 1:1-9	16.	Malachi 3:6-12	27.	Jude 24,25
6.	John 16:23-33	17.	Mark 11:19-25	28.	John 6:35-40
7.	Psalm 32:1-11	18.	Philippians 4:10-20	29.	lsaiah 58:3-12
8.	Jeremiah 29:10-14	19.	Psalm 37:1-6	30.	Psalm 145:13-16
9.	Psalm 37:23 & 24	20.	Proverbs 3:5-8	31.	Nahum 1:2-7
10.	Philippians 4:6-10	21.	Psalm 103:1-5	Praying the Promises Bible reading plan was together by Rachel Wojo at rachelwojo.com	
11.	lsaiah 40:28-31	22.	Psalm 107:13-16		

April Bible Reading Plan for Families

Jesus' Parab	Parables and Teachings			
Day 1: Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12)	Day 16: Rich Ruler (Matthew 19:13-26)			
Day 2: Salt and Light (Matthew 5:13-20	Day 17: Laborers (Matthew 20:1-16)			
Day 3: Prayer (Matthew 6:1-15)	Day 18: Two Sons (Matthew 21:28-32)			
Day 4: Storing Up Treasure (Matthew 6:16-24)	Day 19: Landowner (Matthew 21:33-46)			
Day 5: Anxiety (Matthew 6:25-34)	Day 20: Ten Virgins (Matthew 25:1-13)			
Day 6: Judging & Prayer (Matthew 7:1-12)	Day 21: Talents (Matthew 25:14-29)			
Day7: Two Foundations (Matthew 7:24-28)	Day 22: Nicodemus (John 3:1-21)			
Day 8: Discipleship (Matthew 10:24-42)	Day 23: Light (John 8:12-30)			
Day 9: An Invitation (Matthew 11:25-30)	Day 24: Jesus is God (John 9:35-41)			
Day 10: The Sower (Matthew 13:1-23)	Day 25: Good Shepherd (John 10:1-18)			
Day 11: Tares (Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43)	Day 26: Warning (John 12:44-50)			
Day 12: Kingdom of Heaven (Matthew 13:31-35)	Day 27: Humility (John 13:1-20)			
Day 13: Kingdom of Heaven (Matthew 13:44-51)	Day 28: Heaven (John 14:1-15)			

Day 14: Ninety-Nine Sheep (Matthew 18:12-20)

Day 15: Forgiveness (Matthew 18:21-35)

Day 29: Holy Spirit (John 14:16-31)

Day 30: Abiding (John 15:1-17)

BIBLE CLASSES

10:00 a.m.

Christian Standard Curriculum

Chapel

Ladies Class

Room 7 - Downstairs

Men's Class

Room 8 - Downstairs

Children's Class

Downstairs

MISSIONS WE SUPPORT

Nebowa Christian Camp Midwest Christian Services **Deaf Missions** International Disaster Emergency Services Rapha International Voice of the Martyrs

CHURCH INFO

Worship

Sunday Mornings 9:00 a.m.

Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Leadership

Pastor David Hall (641) 638-4762 Mike Sparks, Elder (712) 261-4730 Kirk Nelson, Elder (712) 540-9591 Larry Heschke, Elder (712) 221-7592 Mark Patten, Deacon Barry Nelson, Deacon Tom Mortenson, Deacon

Website

www.cherokeefcc.com FB: @firstchurchcherokee

Phone: (712) 225-2667 **Email:** office@cherokeefcc.com Office Secretary: Nancy Nelson







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